## CLAIMS

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- 1. Method for real-time addition of statistics definitions and for achieving real-time reporting in a telephone switching system, comprising:
- a database (DB) containing information of essential importance to the telephone switching system;
- a database manager (MGER), whose function is to maintain the database (DB);

one or more service providers (SER);

characterized in that the method
comprises the steps of:

receiving by means of the database manager (MGER) a registration of the service provider (SER);

having the database manager (MGER) send the service provider (SER) an inquiry asking for information about the services produced by it;

storing the service definition data supplied by the service provider (SER) in the database (DB); and

generating a new definitions file for reporting purposes on the basis of the information in the database (DB).

2. Method as defined in claim 1, characterized in that

the version number of the service produced by the 25 service provider (SER) is checked; and

the service provider (SER) is asked to supply information about the services produced by it if the version number of the service provided is previously unknown; or

30 the service provider (SER) is given a request for the service if the version number of the service provided is known.

- $\label{eq:continuous} \textbf{3. Method as defined in claim 1, characterized in that}$
- 35 the version number of the service provided by the service provider (SER) is checked when a request for

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the service is given to the service provider (SER); and

the service request is canceled if the service version number returned by the service provider (SER) is previously unknown.

- 4. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 3, characterized in that the address data of the database manager (MGER) is reported to a name service.
- 5. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 4, characterized in that the address data of the database manager (MGER) is established via an inquiry to the name service.
- 6. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 5, characterized in that individual identification data is attached to each piece of information produced by the service provider (SER).
- 7. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 6, characterized in that the specification data are divided into fixed specification data and network-element specific data.
- 8. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 7, characterized in that the database manager (MGER) is given a reference to a file that contains information about the content of the service produced by the service provider (SER).
- 9. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 8, characterized in that the data collected by the database manager are stored in several different databases based on data types.
- 10. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 9, characterized in that definitions files are generated on the basis of the data contained in the database (DB).
- 11. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 10, characterized in that

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reports are generated on the basis of a definitions file produced by the database manager (MGER).

- 12. Method as defined in any one of the preceding claims 1 11, characterized in that a definitions file previously defined is deleted or changed.
- 13. System for real-time addition of statistics definitions and for achieving real-time reporting in a telephone switching system, comprising:
- 10 a database (DB) containing information of essential importance to the telephone switching system;
  - a database manager (MGER), whose function is to maintain the database (DB);

one or more service providers (SER);

- 15 characterized in that the system comprises:
  - means (1) for receiving a registration of a service provider (SER) by means of the database manager (MGER);
  - means (2) for requesting information about the services produced by the service provider (SER), using the database manager (MGER);
  - means (3) for storing the definition data supplied by the service provider (SER) in the database (DB); and
  - means (4) for generating a new definitions file for reporting purposes on the basis of the information in the database (DB).
- 14. System as defined in claim 13, char-30 acterized in that the system comprises:
  - means (5) for checking the version number of the service produced by the service provider (SER);
  - means (2) for asking for information about the services produced by the service provider (SER);
- 35 means (6) for requesting a service from the service provider (SER).

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15. System as defined in claim 13, characterized in that the system comprises:

means (5) for checking the version number of the service produced by the service provider (SER); and

means (7) for canceling a service request.

16. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 13 - 15, characterized in that the system comprises means (8) for reporting the database manager (MGER) to a name service.

17. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 13 - 16, characterized in that the system comprises means (9) for establishing the address data of the database manager via an inquiry to the name service.

18. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 13 - 17, characterized in that the system comprises means (10) for attaching individual identification data to the information produced by the service provider (SER).

19. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 13 - 18, characterized in that the system comprises means (11) for dividing the definition data into fixed definitions and network-element specific data.

20. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 13 - 19, characterized in that the system comprises means (12) for giving the database manager (MGER) a reference to a file that contains information about the content of the service produced by the service provider (SER).

21. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 13 - 20, characterized in that the system comprises means (13) for storing the data collected by the database manager (MGER) in several different databases on the basis of data types.

22. System as defined in any one of the preceding claims 13 - 21, characterized in

that the system comprises means (14) for generating definitions files on the basis of the information contained in the database (DB).

- 23. System as defined in any one of the pre-5 ceding claims 13 - 22, characterized in that the system comprises means (15) for generating a report on the basis of a definitions file produced by the database manager (MGER).
- 24. System as defined in any one of the pre-10 ceding claims 13 - 23, characterized in that the system comprises means (16) for deleting or changing a definitions file previously defined.